

There is no doubt that you have enriched Jeollabuk-do with your works, speech and spirit. For that reason, the value of such visits is immeasurable and we truly appreciate the opportunity to have you as one of us.

It's only been less than a month since we shared our celebratory nights with Samoan soldiers. We were overwhelmed by their and your spiritual reunion and warm hearts. I was mournful with the latest and yet tragic news of the earthquake and the tsunami. My deepest sympathies are with American Samoans and other Samoans who have lost loved ones, especially with Samoan soldiers in Korea and with you. There is no doubt that you are the sons of warriors. I know you will only be stronger. I hope that Samoa is in good hands and will recover sooner and better. You and Samoa are in my thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely yours,

KIM WAN-JOO,  
*Governor, Jeollabuk-do Province.*

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 21, 2009*

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican leadership standards on Member requests, I am submitting the following information regarding the earmarks I received as part of the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations Conference Report:

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 2997, FY10 Agriculture Appropriations Conference Report

Account: Agricultural Research Services—Buildings and Facilities

Project Name: Systems Biology Research Facility, Lincoln, Nebraska

Amount: \$3,760,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: University of Nebraska—Lincoln, located at 202 Agricultural Hall, Lincoln, Nebraska 68583.

Description: This funding will be used toward construction of a University of Nebraska—Lincoln, UNL/Agricultural Research Service, ARS, Research Facility. This facility would provide critically needed space for UNL and ARS research addressing two areas of national concern: renewable energy and water resource conservation and management. Agriculture is expected to provide almost 40 percent of the nation's liquid fuels within 30 years. This will further intensify demands on our soil and water resources. UNL and ARS scientists have been collaborating at UNL since the 1930s. Very strong collaborative programs continue today, including the ARS program at UNL that has been developing improved switchgrass varieties for 30 years and is the leading program in the world on the use of switchgrass for cellulosic ethanol. These scientists are scattered across the UNL campus and the proposed building will enable them to share collaborative, cutting-edge research space that will move this important research forward more rapidly. This project would advance major research focused on essential national efforts.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 21, 2009*

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I regrettably missed rollcall vote No. 790, 791, and 792 on October 20, 2009. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Rollcall No. 790: "yea"; rollcall No. 791: "yea"; rollcall No. 792: "yea."

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
SERGEANT TIMOTHY SMITH OF  
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA

### HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 21, 2009*

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Timothy Smith of South Lake Tahoe, CA, who was killed in the line of duty on April 7, 2008. Tim is survived by his wife Shayna Richard-Smith, their son Riley, his parents, Patricia and Michael, his brother Tom, and his sister Jackie.

Tim graduated from South Tahoe High School in 2001 and joined the Army in April 2004. He will always be remembered for his sense of humor, his warmth, and his great courage. Senator HARRY REID, on the floor of the United States Senate, called Tim Smith "a hero—a real-life American hero—who gave his life so that others might be safe."

Timothy Smith gave the ultimate sacrifice, may we never forget.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 21, 2009*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding funding for Delaware included as part of the final conference report for the FY 2010 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, H.R. 3183:

Name of Project: Delaware Coast, Cape Henlopen to Fenwick Island, Bethany Beach to South Bethany, DE

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3183

Account: ACOE—Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Army Corps of Engineers

Address of Requesting Entity: The Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, PA, 19107

Description of Request: \$969,000 for the periodic renourishment of the Bethany Beach/South Bethany project area in Sussex County, Delaware. The purpose of this project is to reduce flood and coastal storm damage.

Name of Project: Delaware Coast, Cape Henlopen to Fenwick Island, Rehoboth Beach and Dewey Beach, DE

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3183

Account: ACOE—Construction  
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Army Corps of Engineers

Address of Requesting Entity: The Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, PA, 19107

Description of Request: \$969,000 for the periodic renourishment of Rehoboth Beach and Dewey Beach in Sussex County, Delaware. The purpose of the project is to reduce flood and coastal storm damage.

Name of Project: Harbor of Refuge, Lewes, DE

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3183

Account: ACOE—O&M

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Army Corps of Engineers

Address of Requesting Entity: The Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, PA, 19107

Description of Request: \$100,000 to repair and re-enforce the federally owned offshore Harbor of Refuge Breakwater wall that has been badly damaged and weakened by storms. The purpose of the project is to restore the historic breakwater itself and preservation of the lighthouse, which provides sound storm protection for marine interests and erosion protection for the Lewes/Cape Henlopen area shoreline.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 21, 2009*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the FY 10 Energy and Water Development Appropriation Act.

Requesting Member: Rep. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

Bill Number: H.R. 3183

Delaware River Dredging Material Utilization

Account: Army Corps of Engineers—Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Army Corps of Engineers

Address of Requesting Entity: The Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390.

Description: Evaluate problems, needs, and opportunities in the interest of beneficial use of dredged material. This project will provide ecosystem restoration and improve water quality in the vicinity of the Delaware River between Philadelphia and Trenton.

Financial Statement: A reconnaissance study is 100% federally funded. The States of Delaware, New Jersey and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will be the non-Federal sponsors and will provide current site conditions data in this phase, and will contribute half of all subsequent study costs.

New Jersey Shoreline Alternative Long-Term Nourishment

Account: Army Corps of Engineers—Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Army Corps of Engineers

Address of Requesting Entity: The Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390.

Description: Continue the evaluation of New Jersey's coastal projects, including the different reaches of beach replenishment projects, as a system to ensure maximum benefits are achieved from the Federal investment and reduce long-term periodic nourishment costs.

Financial Statement: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is the non-Federal sponsor and provides their portion of the study costs.

HONORING POLICE CHIEF MICHAEL  
J. CARROLL

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 21, 2009*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues representing Chester County, Congressmen JOE PITTS and JOE SESTAK, to congratulate West Goshen Township Police Chief Michael J. Carroll on his induction as President of the International Association of Police Chiefs in Denver, Colorado on October 7, 2009.

The tremendous honor of being selected by his peers to lead the 106-year-old nonprofit organization that promotes professionalism and global policing is just the latest accomplishment in Chief Carroll's distinguished 43-year law enforcement career. He is a Past President of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association and Chester County Police Chiefs Associations and has been inducted into the International Police Association Hall of Fame.

The lengthy list of accolades is a testament to Chief Carroll's outstanding leadership and commitment to the department he runs and the community he protects. He has earned the respect of his fellow officers for his passion for police work, determination to solve even the most difficult cases and drive to provide the highest-quality training and resources for all officers.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Police Chief Michael J. Carroll for earning this prestigious international post and for his exemplary service to the residents of Chester County, Pennsylvania.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF  
JAMES VINCENT MCCONNELL, JR.

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 21, 2009*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, earlier this week the city of Mobile lost a dear friend and a respected leader and I rise today to honor Mr. James Vincent "Jim" McConnell Jr. and pay tribute to his memory. Jim was a successful businessman, an active citizen and a dedicated soldier who years earlier answered his country's call to serve. He will be remembered as a man devoted to his family, his country and his community.

A native of Pensacola, Jim moved to Mobile as a teenager and graduated from Murphy High School. He received a football scholarship to the University of Alabama in 1959 and

played under the legendary Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant. After graduating from the University of Alabama in 1963 with a degree in business administration, Jim entered the U.S. Army and served as a second lieutenant in Germany. He was later promoted to captain after being reassigned to Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

After an honorable discharge, Jim worked for his father at Trail Cadillac-Pontiac before starting on his own dealership, Trail Pontiac on Dauphin Street. Later, Jim acquired the Mercedes-Benz and GMC Truck franchises, which he eventually merged with his brother's Cadillac dealership, forming McConnell Automotive Corporation. Jim was also a partner in the new Mercedes-Benz of Mobile.

Jim served on the General Motors Dealer Advisory Board and as president of the Buick-Pontiac-GMC area marketing group for 20 years. He received numerous awards as a General Motors Master Dealer and Mercedes-Benz Diamond Dealer. He was a member of the Red Elephant Club, served on the Senior Bowl committee and was active in a number of other civic and community organizations. In short, Jim McConnell was always giving back to the city he loved and called home.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated and generous community leader and a dear friend to many. Jim McConnell will be deeply missed by his family—his wife, Cynde; his sons, Mitch McConnell, Stan McConnell, Vince McConnell and Baker McConnell; his mother, Mary Louise McConnell; his brother Eddie McConnell; his sister, Mary Lou Layden; and his four grandchildren—as well as his many friends, colleagues, and patrons.

Mobile—and indeed our entire state—lost a true leader for our area and our thoughts and prayers are with this family at this difficult time.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE JUDY  
SCHIER HOBBS

**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 21, 2009*

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the Honorable Judy Schier Hobbs, Justice of the Peace for Precinct 4 in Williamson County, who was awarded "Judge of the Year" by the Texas Justice Court Judges Association (TJCJA) at their annual 2009 Education Conference in Austin, Texas. The state-wide award was presented at the Awards Luncheon during the four-day conference at the Austin Hyatt Regency on Lady Bird Lake.

Texas Justice Court Judges Association is an organization representing Justice Court Judges and Clerks across the State of Texas.

Judge Hobbs was awarded the "Judge of the Year" by the Central Texas Justices of the Peace and Constables Association earlier this year.

Judge Hobbs is a lifelong resident of Precinct Four in Williamson County with a rich history of community service and was appointed and sworn to office May 15, 1982. She is a Lifetime member of the Texas Justice Court Judges Association and Central Texas Justices of the Peace and Constables Association.

Judge Hobbs is married and has two children and seven grandchildren with one on the way and is a member of the Brushy Creek Baptist Church.

SUPPORT THE MOTOR VEHICLE  
OWNERS RIGHT TO REPAIR ACT

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 21, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss a problem that many of us, and many of our constituents, often face, a problem that be easily resolved with legislation that I, joined by Representatives ANNA ESHOO and GEORGE MILLER, have reintroduced. HR 2057, The Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act, ensures that motoring consumers have the ability to choose where, how and by whom they have their vehicles repaired and serviced, even those recently out of warranty.

Vehicles that are 1994 and newer are equipped with computers that control most of the vehicles' systems, from air bags and brakes, to tire pressure, oil changes, electronics, ignition systems and keys. In fact, there are more computers on today's vehicles than were on the Apollo 11 moon mission.

Independent repair shops, which comprise a large number of the small businesses in all of our districts, are experiencing a great deal of difficulty in locating and obtaining the information, tools and software needed to completely repair late model vehicles. These shops often must turn away their valued customers, forcing them to return to new car dealerships, which, on average, are 34 percent more expensive. Not only is that a loss of business for the over 200,000 independent repair shops in our nation, but it is a financial burden for our constituents.

I have heard several complaints in my office of problems that independent repair shops have experienced in repairing later model vehicles. One independent aftermarket technician in New York was attempting to diagnose a Subaru and was told that the car company would not sell the independent repair shop the proper tools needed to diagnose and repair a drivability problem.

Another New York repair shop was told they would have to wait up to two days to obtain the software from Ford needed to update the computer on a Ford Escape. The repairer had to pay for towing and then pay the new car dealership a fee.

I have another example from Massachusetts. But you get the point.

82% of car owners and 94% of independent repair shops indicate that they favor the passage of this bill. It allows repair shops to offer their clients better service and doesn't cost the taxpayers or the government any money. Instead, it's a way that we can provide affordable choices to car owners who continue to struggle in this difficult economy.

The car companies have argued that this bill would lead to infringements on their intellectual property. HR 2057 does NOT request or require proprietary information and I have inserted language to ensure that. Similar legislation has been passed in the California state legislature, and there were no breaches of proprietary information; the only result was